Torrance, California February 23, 1955

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Wednesday, February 23, 1955, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Drale presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Isen, Schwab and Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMAN: Blount. City Attorney Hall was also present.

At the request of Mayor Drale, Mr. Paul Slonecker led the salute to our Flag.

Reverend Sippel of the First Christian Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

Attorney Hall announced that, before the Council proceeded with the regular agenda, he would like to bring to the attention of everyone present the fact that a petition for annexation of territory, pursuant to Section 35305 of the Government Code of the State of California, has been received and ordered filed by the Council. This petition was received in the office of the City Clerk at 4:12 p.m. today and is signed on behalf of Palos Verdes Properties (by Rancho Palos Verdes Corporation, Partner), by Great Lakes Carbon Corporation, by Rancho Palos Verdes Corporation and by the Capital Company. Appended to the petition is a description of the property requested to be annexed. Mr. Hall said that inasmuch as this petition has been received and ordered filed, and it is now two or three minutes after eight o'clock, perhaps the Council would want to again order that it be filed as a matter of record.

Councilman Benstead so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Clerk Bartlett asked that a correction be made in the minutes of the meeting held February 15, 1955, by changing the figure of the amount of money to be put in escrow for the Civic Center site from \$188,000, as shown on page 12 of those minutes, to the figure of \$188,492.75, as set forth in Resolution No. 2688 adopted February 8, 1955.

Councilman Benstead moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 15, 1955, as corrected, and the minutes of the Special Meeting held February 21, 1955, be approved as written. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

BIDS:

Mayor Drale announced this was the time and place fixed for the opening of bids for the leasing of motor vehicles for the Police Department.

City Clerk Bartlett opened and read the following bids:

Paul's Chevrolet:

1. Two to four vehicles for use by the Traffic Department, powered by engines with a minimum rating of 160 h.p. at the rate of nine (9) cents per mile per car.

- 2. Four to six vehicles for other than traffic purposes, powered by engines with a minimum rating of 115 h.p., at the rate of seven and one-half (7-1/2) cents per mile per car.
- 3. Two to four vehicles for use by the Traffic Department, powered by engines with a minimum rating of 180 h.p., at the rate of nine and one-half (9-1/2) cents per mile per car.

Oscar Maples, Inc.:

- 1. Two to four vehicles to be used by the Traffic Department, powered with 8 cyl., 162 h.p. engines, at the rate of nine (9) cents per mile.
- 2. Four to six vehicles to be used for other than traffic, powered with 6 cyl., 120 h.p. engines, at the rate of seven and one-half (7-1/2) cents per mile.
- 3. Two to four vehicles to be used by the Traffic Department, powered with 8 cyl., 188 h.p., known as Police Special Interceptor unit, at the rate of nine and one-half (9-1/2) cents per mile.

Councilman Schwab moved these bids be referred to the Police Chief for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Request of the Sister Elizabeth Kenny Foundation for their Annual Campaign to be held in May, 1955, (local volunteers soliciting). City Clerk Bartlett advised that it is customary for the Council to approve such a request from this organization.

Councilman Isen moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Foursquare Church, protesting the establishment of a place to sell alcoholic beverages.

Attorney Hall advised that such protests should be registered with the State Board of Equalization, who would hold a legal hearing on the matter; that if it was a matter of zoning then the City would be concerned.

Councilman Benstead moved the communication be referred to the State Board of Equalization. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mayor Drale requested City Clerk Bartlett to forward the communication.

Torrance Hospital Association, requesting extension on the Variance granted them for a period of ninety days.

Mayor Drale moved the extension be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The Gilman Corporation, requesting termination and mutual cancellation of their lease relative to Airport property as of February 28, 1955.

Mayor Drale asked City Attorney Hall if he was satisfied with the terms of the cancellation and Mr. Hall replied that he had no objections; that in effect this is a mutual termination, but he would like to have the recommendation of City Manager Stevens.

Councilman Isen moved the request be held over to the next meeting for a recommendation from City Manager Stevens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

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City Attorney Hall, quoting Section 15 of Ordinance No. 624; stating that this section is self-explanatory and license refunds should be in accordance therewith, or if the City Council desires to adopt a different procedure then the Ordinance should be amended.

Councilman Isen said he believed the Council had, by a majority vote, expressed the policy that (1) there should be no refunds on Business Licenses and (2) that the full Business License fee would be payable when applied for any time during the year. In line with this,

Councilman Isen moved the City Attorney be instructed to amend the Ordinance to conform with the policy that has been set. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Attorney Hall, referring to the claim of Mrs. Vivian G. Cool, dated January 15, 1955, to the effect that as consideration for a sewer easement, this party should be reimbursed therefor, to the extent of paying the sewer hook-up costs. Mr. Hall recommended that, under the particular circumstances in this case, the City bear the particular costs involved.

Councilman Isen moved the Council concur with the recommendation of City Attorney Hall. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried

unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Attorney Hall, referring to the communication from the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1138, requesting payroll deductions for union dues, which was referred to him for an opinion with reference to the City's authority to deduct union dues. Attorney Hall quoted Section 1157.1 of the Government Code of the State of California, and stated that although this section does not refer expressly to unions, it is his opinion that if the local union involved is composed entirely of City employees, that there is statutory authority to withhold such union dues, provided (1) that the Council approves such withholding as a matter of policy, and (2) that the employees involved approve such withholding in writing.

Councilman Benstead moved the request be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those

present.

City Manager Stevens, recommending that a sum not to exceed \$2,440.00 be paid to the Chanslor-Western Oil Development Company to cover the cost of re-locating pipe lines on the Civic Center site.

Mayor Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation of City Manager Stevens. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending tentative approval of Tract Map No. 15570, with certain special condi-

Councilman Isen stated that a number of weeks ago, as a matter of policy, it was suggested that the Planning Commission also set forth another item on their transmittal form which would show what the contours

Councilman Isen moved that Transmittal Form for Tract Map No. 15570 be referred back to the Planning Commission for the addition of an item showing what the contours will be. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Further discussion was held on another item being added to the transmittal form, which pertained to street lights, but no action taken.

City Clerk Bartlett was instructed to refer this matter back to the Planning Commission requesting that Item 15 be added, which would show what the contours will be.

Transmittal form from the Planning Commission recommending

approval of Tentative Tract Map No. 20829.

Councilman Isen said he thought the same motion would be in order, that we do not receive these recommendations until the matter of topography has been gone into and the Council informed.

Councilman Schwab moved this map be referred back to the Planning Commission for clarification on contours. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Transmittal Form from Planning Commission recommending approval of Revised Tentative Tract Map No. 20873, with certain special conditions. Councilman Benstead moved this map be handled in the same manner as the two preceding maps. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Transmittal Form from Planning Commission recommending approval

of Final Tract Map No. 21173.

Councilman Isen moved the map be referred back to the Planning Commission for clarification of contours. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Planning Commission recommending approval of the request for annexation to the City of Torrance by the Palos Verdes Properties, with the following recommendations: (1) Deed restrictions. (2) At least two school sites acceptable to the School Board. (3) Hawthorne Boulevard to be projected in the manner described by the diagram on the plot map. (4) The hiring of an impartial Land Consultant or Economist to check over the matters under discussion.

Councilman Benstead moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so

ordered by Mayor Drale.

Councilman Benstead moved the Mayor set a time and date for the third and final hearing on this matter. Motion, seconded by Councilman

Schwab, carried unanimously.

Mayor Drale set the date for the third and final hearing on the Palos Verdes Properties annexation as Monday, March 7, 1955, at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Torrance.

Planning Commission recommending waiver on the front setbacks of the houses located on the perimeter of the cul-de-sac in Tract No. 21173.

Councilman Schwab moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Isen, no objections, so ordered

by Mayor Drale.

Councilman Isen pointed out that there were other matters referred to in this same communication and Councilman Schwab moved it be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 732

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF LOT C, TRACT 1427, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Isen moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Isen moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 732 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

City Attorney Hall left the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Benstead stated that the fence at the Recreation Center in Pueblo is badly in need of repair and moved this fence be repaired and painted. Motion, seconded by Mayor Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Isen commented on the fact that work has been started on extending Plaza del Amo through to Western Avenue, which will provide better access to the Little League diamond.

City Clerk Bartlett advised that he had a couple of letters which had been placed on his desk this evening and was instructed to read them.

Walteria Civic Organization, enclosing copy of letter sent to Planning Commission opposing the annexation of the 6513 acres belonging to the Great Lakes Carbon Company, and stating that the organization wishes to remain on record as opposing annexation of the property for reasons set forth in the enclosed letter.

Councilman Isen asked that the Council be furnished copies of this letter.

Councilman Schwab moved the communication be filed in the subject annexation file. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Petition bearing twenty-eight signatures of residents of the Arlington Plaza Community Betterment Group requesting action of the transfer of water service from the Moneta Water Company to Torrance Water District No. 3.

Councilman Isen said he thought the people should know that we are doing what we can on this matter. Councilman Blount at the last meeting wanted to know what we were going to do with reference to condemnation to take over the water lines of the Moneta Water Company. The people should also keep in mind that originally the Moneta Water Company were willing to make this change and have now changed their minds and are blocking it in every way possible.

Councilman Schwab moved the communication be referred to the Legal Department for disposition. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Clerk Bartlett read an open letter to the City Council, stating that he advocated a change in our present City government to a Councilmanic District form of government, and to provide adequate compensation to its Councilmen. He said that some time ago he had prepared a map consisting of seven Districts, which, in his opinion, would be sufficient and applicable for several years ahead; that he would like to see this change made so that it will be effective as and when we move into the new Civic Center.

Councilman Isen moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

Mrs. Donald Hauser, 169 Paseo de las Delicias, read a communication from the Torrance Council of Parents and Teachers, Inc., referring to the proposed annexation of the Great Lakes Carbon Company property and recommending that the Great Lakes Carbon Company, and all others concerned, make available all the sites necessary to provide educational facilities in the area, as needed by the School District and as selected by the School District, at no cost to the taxpayers of the City of Torrance.

Councilman Benstead moved this communication be filed as a matter of record and presented at the hearing on March 7. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

At 8:45 p.m. Mayor Drale declared a recess. The meeting reconvened at 9:00 p.m.

City Clerk Bartlett read a recommendation from Police Chief Haslam regarding the bids for the leasing of motor vehicles for the Police Department as follows:

1. That Item No. 2 on the bid of Paul's Chevrolet be accepted to furnish four to six vehicles of 115 h.p. at the rate of seven and one-half (7-1/2) cents per mile per car. Terms of the proposal are acceptable.

2. That Item No. 3 on the bid of Oscar Maples be accepted to furnish two to four vehicles of 8 cyl., 188 h.p. at the rate of nine and one-half (9-1/2) cents per mile per car. Terms of the proposal are acceptable.

Councilman Isen moved the Council concur with the recommendation of the Police Chief. Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Isen moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

At 9:05 p.m. Councilman Isen moved the meeting adjourn. Motion, seconded by Councilman Schwab, no objections, so ordered by Mayor Drale.

City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROYED:

Mayor of the City of Torrance